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Message Text

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17
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 PM-04 SAM-01 NSC-05 USIA-15

OPR-02 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 AID-05 SMI-01 /082 W
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R 040731Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3006
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS TOKYO 12306

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, JA (EMPEROR)
SUBJECT: EMPEROR'S VISIT TO US - PRESS CONFERENCE

SUMMARY. IN SEPTEMBER 3 PRESS CONFERENCE, THE EMPEROR SAID HE IS VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO ACHIEVING HIS LONG-HELD DESIRE TO VISIT THE US. HE HOPES TO HELP STRENGTHEN FRIENDLY RELATIONS THROUGH MEETING WITH MANY AMERICANS. HE INDIATED POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER OVRSEAS VISITS, BUT SAID IT WAS UP TO GOJ TO DECIDE. HE SAID HE WOULD NEVER FORGET AMERICAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN POSTWAR ERA. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING THIRTY MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 3, THE EMPEROR TOLD PRESS THAT HE HAD BEEN HOPING TO VISIT US FOR A LONG TIME AND WAS DELIGHTED THAT HE WOULD NOW BE ABLE TO DO SO. THROUGH MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AND MANY AMERICANS, HE WISHED TO WORK TO STRENGTHEN FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH US. REGARDING HIS IMAGE OF AMERICANS, EMPEROR SAID THAT HE HAD OCCASIONALLY MET AMERICANS AND UNDERSTOOD THAT THEY WORKED HARD FOR NATIONAL PROSPERITY AND WORLD PEACE. HE SAID THAT WHILE AMERICANS RATHER FORTHRIGHTLY EXPRESSED THEIR OPINIONS, THEY WERE FRANK AND NOT ABSTRACT; THEY HAD A FRESH NATIONAL CHARACTER AND WERE EASY TO KNOW.

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2. EMPEROR SAID IT HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED WHAT HE WOULD SAY TO THE

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JAPANESE-AMERICANS WHOM HE WOULD MEET, BUT THAT FACT THAT THEY HAD WORKED FOR PROSPERITY OF US SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO US-JAPAN RELATIONS.

3. HE SAID HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO VISITING SMITHSONIAN AND WOODS HOLE AND OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE ORIGINAL SAMPLES OF NEW SPECIES SUCH AS HYDROZOA, WHICH SHOULD ASSIST HIS OWN RESEARCH.

4. REGARDING ANOTHER OVERSEAS VISIT, EMPEROR SAID THAT IF HE HAD THE CHANCE, THERE WERE SEVERAL OUTSTANDING RETURN VISITS TO BE MADE, BUT THAT DECISION WAS ONE FOR GOJ.

5. EMPEROR SAID HIS FORMOST MEMORY OF POSTWAR ERA HAD BEEN HIS TRAVELS TO VARIOUS PREFECTURES IMMEDIATELY AFTER WAR TO ENCOURAGE JAPANESE PEOPLE AND ESTABLISH CONTACTS BETWEEN THEM AND IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD. HE SAID PRESENT-DAY JAPANESE PROPERITY WAS INCON-CEIVABLE IN THOSE DAYS AND THAT, WHILE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS, HE COULD NEVER FORGET THE ASSISTANCE FROM USG AND AMERICAN PEOPLE.

6. IN CLOSING, EMPEROR INVITED LAUGHTEN WHEN, ACKNOWLEDGING THE CURRENT BOOM IN ARTICLES AND BOOKS ON IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD, HE SAID HE WOULD BE DISTRESSED IF THEY CONTAINED MISTAKES.
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